

Amendment to the Abstract

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

An apparatus or a system having an integrated circuit (IC) or a microprocessor with an operational circuit, a proxy circuit and a voltage regulator. In various embodiments, the operational circuit operates at a first frequency, and the proxy circuit outputs a periodic signal at a second frequency reflective of a potential of the first frequency. The periodic signal is provided to the voltage regulator controller, which conditionally regulates voltage applied to the IC or microprocessor, based at least in part on the second frequency.